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January 26, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
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Art Unit 3622

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/496,960; Filed: February 3, 2000
For: **Automated Real-Time Distributed Tag Reader Network**
Inventors: ARNESON *et al.*
Our Ref: 1689.0010002

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply Brief Under 37 C.F.R. § 41.41;
2. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form for \$1000.00 to cover the Request For Oral Hearing fee;
3. Request For Oral Hearing (PTO/SB/32); and
4. ONE (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
January 26, 2005
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RS', is written over the printed name of Robert Sokohl.

Robert Sokohl
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RES/mjg